



Public Safety Interoperable Communications Office (PSIC) Multiple Projects Updates October 9, 2012

Presented to the Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)

Key Matters

- PSIC is seeking an interoperable communications subject matter expert with public safety experience. Interested parties should contact Justin.Turner@azdoa.gov.
- 2013 TA Requests – After analysis of OEC and stakeholder feedback and evaluation of which TAs appropriately support planned State of Arizona interoperability initiatives, PSIC, in consultation with AZDOHS, submitted the following FFY2013 TA requests to OEC:
 - Priority 1: OP-MCVS: Mobil Communications Vehicle (MCV) Support; catalog page 37.
 - Priority 2: RCES-SCMP – Regional communications enhancement support-strategic communications plan (SCMP).
 - Priority 3: TRG-AUXCOMM: Auxiliary Communications Workshop; catalog page 19.
 - Priority 4: TRG-COMT – All-hazards communication unit technician (COMT) course; catalog page 13.
 - NECP Goal 2 Related: OP-TTX – Communications-Focused Tabletop Exercise; catalog page 43.

On September 7, 2012 OEC accepted Arizona's request for OP-TTX – Communications-Focused Tabletop Exercise (NECP Goal 2 Request) and notified Arizona that the remaining TA requests were deferred pending a second round of TA acceptance/deferral in early CY2013. The remaining requests will be reconsidered by OEC at that time. For additional information see: [ICTAP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: 2012 Review; Arizona's 2013 Requests](#)

- Key Upcoming Events
 - Southwest Border Communications Working Group Meeting
October 17, 2012 – 8 AM to 5 PM
Santa Fe, NM
 - Yuma County COML Class (ERMA Event # 1002202)
October 22 - 25, 2012 – 8 AM to 5 PM
Yuma County Public Works Building
4343 So. Avenue 5-1/2 E; Yuma, AZ 85364
<http://www.azpsic.gov/library/coml/training.htm>
 - AZ Digital Connections Summit
November 13, 2012 – 8 AM to 4 PM
Mesa Convention Center
63 North Center Street; Mesa, AZ 85201
<http://azdigitalfuture.org/>
 - [Pima County TICP Revision Workshop](#)
December 4, 2012 – 8:30 AM to 5 PM
Fire Central, Conference Room 266
300 S. Fire Central Place; Tucson, AZ 85701

Governance (SCIP Initiatives #1 - 3)

- FY2013 PSIC Office Plan – Annual review and revisions were completed following updates to the SCIP, which was approved by the PSCC at its public meeting on July 17. The Plan was presented at the PSCC meeting on September 18 ([see presentation for details](#)) and [posted on the PSIC website](#).
- CASM & TICPs:
 - The PSIC Office is providing CASM templates and requesting additional data from non-participating agencies (Agencies who did not give us data during the Goal Two process). In addition, we are requesting verification / data updates from all agencies with data currently in CASM.
 - A new CASM template and separate guidance document have been placed on the PSIC website: <http://www.azpsic.gov/library/casm/>.
 - An Arizona specific CASM User Account Request / Approval Form (for CAM Only Access) is available on the PSIC website: <http://www.azpsic.gov/library/casm/>.
 - The Arizona Central Region (Phoenix UASI) TICP Update & ACR-FOG Development – The TICP update and the ACR-FOG are nearly complete and just need some statewide assets included and some local jurisdiction edits. Options for publication of the ACR-FOG are being reviewed.
 - PSIC recently awarded an RFQ for TICP / SCMP Facilitation services. PSIC will be working with counties in the North and South RAC to facilitate their Goal Two Gap Closure projects, including TICP (Apache, Navajo, Santa Cruz) and SCMP (North RAC) development.
 - PSIC is creating a state level TICP to include federal and state-owned communications assets available for deployment statewide, which will be provided to all Arizona counties upon its initial completion. For more information, contact Karen Allen at Karen.Allen@azdoa.gov.
 - [Pima County TICP Update](#) – On December 4, 2012 the Tucson UASI Interoperable Communications Subcommittee will be hosting a TICP Revision Workshop. Stakeholders, including administrators and members of the technical groups, are invited to attend. Please RSVP to Nicolas Siemsen at Nicolas.Siemsen@tonation-nsn.gov by November 26, 2012.
- National Broadband Monitoring:
 - The PSCC was briefed on the state of the NPSBN at the meeting on September 18 ([see presentation for details](#)).
 - The FirstNet Board members have been appointed and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has released preliminary guidance for the \$135M national-level State and Local Implementation Grant Program.
 - PSIC is garnering input and advice from PSCC, SIEC, Digital Arizona (ADOA-ASET), 9-1-1 Office (ADOA-ASET), DPS, AZDOHS and stakeholders statewide, in other states & at the Federal level in researching and developing recommendations.
 - PSIC and the AZPSBN workgroup are developing a plan to educate and gain input from statewide stakeholders which is aligned with the guidance just received from NTIA.
 - PSIC and ADOA-ASET in conjunction with the PSCC, have taken the lead in developing public safety broadband strategy and recommendations for the Governor's Office.
 - PSIC is serving as the central point of contact for Arizona to ensure that all interested parties get uniform and consistent information about our processes and plans and that we become aware of all interested parties. We have had extensive interaction with vendors as we both go through the learning process about how this NPSBN program will evolve.
 - PSIC attended the Public Safety Broadband National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) working group meetings in Boulder, CO, August 7-9 and the NPSTC Quarterly meeting in Salt Lake City, UT, September 6-7.
 - PSIC is working on the NPSTC Statement of Requirements documentation which will establish the Public Safety requirements for FirstNet
 - NTIA/FirstNet has issued a Notice of Inquiry (NOI) requesting “public comment on the conceptual network architecture presentation made at the FirstNet Board of Directors’ meeting held on September 25, 2012, as well as to invite input on other network design and business plan considerations. NTIA also seeks

comment on the general concept of how to develop applications for public safety users as discussed at the FirstNet Board meeting.” Arizona plans to respond either directly or through the PSST-OAC Operator Advisory Council (OAC) with the deadline being November 1, 2012.

- Arizona’s PSIC Office participated on a panel session during a Utilities Telecommunications Council (UTC) workshop on October 3 to discuss the FirstNet RFP process and the build-out of the PSBN. The panel discussed possible infrastructure/spectrum sharing options and opportunities for utilities to work as potential partners in the construction, maintenance and operation of the network.
- [AZ Digital Connections Summit](#) – (see Key Upcoming Events above).
- For more information on Broadband issues, contact Michael Britt at Michael.Britt@azdoa.gov.

SOPs (SCIP Initiative #4)

- Land Mobile Radio Minimum Equipment Standards Update – The PSIC Office, in cooperation with the Interoperability Channels Plan working group, updated the standards, which had not been reviewed since January 2007. The draft Standard, which was previously approved by the SIEC at the meeting on August 14, was approved by the PSCC at the meeting on September 18 ([see presentation for details](#)) and posted on the PSIC website at: <http://www.azpsic.gov/library/standards>.
- National Incident Management System Communications Unit (NIMS-CU) Workgroup Policies and Procedures Updates:
 - Under the direction of the SIEC, the Arizona Regional All-Hazards Communications Unit Recognition Procedure was developed as an expansion of the COML Recognition Procedure to maintain the successful approach and processes that have already been developed.
 - The revised Recognition Procedure, which was previously approved by the SIEC at the meeting on August 14, was also approved by the PSCC at the meeting on September 18 ([see presentation for details](#)).
- Regional Communications Systems Connection (RCSC) Project Status:
 - Executive summary and technical timeline – complete
 - Multi-agency IGA – RWC, TRWC, DPS and YRCS have approved the IGA. Maricopa County and PC-WIN can sign on as they become operational with their new Regional Systems.
 - Operational Supplement - complete
 - Multi-agency SOP – complete but may need to be re-visited/finalized once the build-out is complete.
 - Pilot test with DPS and YRCS – complete and successful
 - Deployment Schedule – being developed in conjunction with Thompson Peak build out

Technology (SCIP Initiatives #5 - 9)

- Narrowbanding: As of September, 30 2012, 88.5% of Arizona transmitter licenses have been modified to be Narrowband only or Narrowband & Wideband. Currently, 11.7% of licenses (877 transmitters) are wideband only.
 - To aid communities in monitoring the progress of narrowbanding efforts in their area, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) released a Narrowband status reporting tool, the Narrowband Summary Tracker, to go along with the Narrowband License Status Tool. Both tools are available online at: http://publicsafetytools.info/narrowband/start_narrowband.php
- AIRS (Initiative #5): AIRS Improvement and Sustainability Plan:
 - The Draft Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) Improvement & Sustainability Plan was posted on the PSIC website and emailed to interested parties for a two week public review period. Associated feedback was presented to the SIEC for approval today ([see presentation for details](#)).
 - For more information, contact Karen Allen at Karen.Allen@azdoa.gov.
- Support of Regional Communication Systems (Initiative #6) – YRCS BIDP:
 - A request for technical assistance to update the Yuma countywide TICP was approved by OEC in January. The full-day TICP update was held on June 6, 2012, and the updated document was approved by the YRCS Council in August.

- Additional technical assistance has been requested for: development of a Tactical Interoperable Field Operations Guide (TICFOG), which will include material from the updated approved TICP.
- Technical assistance was also requested for delivery of an All-Hazards COML training course, but OEC was not be able to support the request, due to the limited availability of BIDP assistance resources.
- For more information contact Stephen Holland, Assistant IT Director of Telecommunications with the City of Yuma at Stephen.Holland@yumaaz.gov.
- State Agency Operability in support of Interoperability (Initiative #9) – The RICO Project is progressing:
 - Five of six sites have been activated. Access remains a challenge for the final site.
 - A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and a draft Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for identified agencies to utilize the Southeastern Arizona Communications Center Talk Group have been developed.
 - Letters of interest were sent out to pre-determined agencies with an invitation to sign the MOU and accept/install the free equipment.
 - Interested agencies have met with the PSIC office to update the SOP. Eight of the thirteen invited agencies are in the process of completing their MOU to accept and install the radio equipment. Two of those agencies have begun conversations with YRCS reference installation.
 - For more information, contact Karen Allen at Karen.Allen@azdoa.gov or Stephen Holland, Assistant IT Director of Telecommunications with the City of Yuma at Stephen.Holland@yumaaz.gov.

Training & Exercise (SCIP Initiatives #10 & 11)

- OEC posted three new OEC-developed computer-based training modules as well as a link to the Online Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Training provided by the National Criminal Intelligence Resource Center (NCIRC.gov) online at http://www.publicsafetytools.info/training/start_training.php. The computer-based training was developed in an effort to make technical assistance services available to a broader audience at a much reduced cost per student. We encourage stakeholders to share this information and incorporate the offerings into ongoing agency training programs. Additional information on these and other communications related trainings can be found on the PSIC website at: <http://www.azpsic.gov/initiatives/training/default.htm>.

The offerings are:

- [Public Safety Communications Focused Project Management](#)
- [Communications Unit \(COMU\) Awareness](#)
- [Auxiliary Communicator \(AUXCOMM\) Awareness](#)
- [Online Suspicious Activity Reporting \(SAR\) Training](#)
- AIRS Training Materials:
 - DVDs, stickers, and training curriculum are available upon request. The training program is also available online at: <http://www.azpsic.gov/library/airs/>.
 - Additional information about prioritization and rules of use from the AIRS State Plan SOP (available online at: http://www.azpsic.gov/library/airs/Arizona_AIRS_SOP_01112012.pdf) was incorporated into the website content. Although there is no authorization required for the use of AIRS during drills, tests, and exercises, recommendations for exercise planners were also posted:
 - PRIOR: Determine if the AIRS channel in your area is monitored; if so, contact the monitoring agency to inform them of the planned use of the frequency.
 - PRIOR: Contact the PSIC Office if you would like for them to post a notification flyer to announce the planned use of AIRS and send the information to the PSIC Interested Parties List.
 - DURING: Transmit periodic announcements over the AIRS frequency being used to reference the drill, test, or exercise (and a point of contact) as a courtesy to local agencies.
- Communications Unit Leader (COML) Credentialing Best Practice Webinars:
 - OEC, in collaboration with the National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (NCSWIC), identified best practice models for state COML Recognition Programs and they have hosted several webinars featuring varying approaches to help SWICs gain a better understanding of how COMLs are

Sign up for the PSIC Office e-mail list to receive the latest news, updates, & meeting announcements: <http://www.azpsic.gov/news>

becoming credentialed in other areas of the country in order to create or improve their own State processes.

- The interactive [Certification Recognition / Best Practices webinar](#) featuring Arizona was presented on July 31, 2012.
- Arizona Regional All-Hazards Communications Unit Recognition:
 - Annual review and revisions to the Recognition Program policies and procedures are complete; updated procedures have all been approved (see SOPs [SCIP Initiative #4] above).
 - In addition to the revised Recognition Procedure, a brief history of the program (including training information) was presented to the PSCC at the meeting on September 18 ([see presentation for details](#)).
 - See the NIMS-CU Workgroup Update attached to this document: Currently, 19 individuals representing agencies from 5 counties have been granted recognition.
- Communications Unit Training – Training program updates were presented to the SIEC today ([see presentation for details](#)):
 - Future COML and COMT courses are being planned according to funding availability.
 - A COML training course has been scheduled in Yuma (see Key Upcoming Events above).
 - COML Field Day – Planning continues for a Training Field Day to provide additional training to interested COML candidates. The Field Day was postponed to a date later this year due to procurement delays, as well as weather and wildland fire season.
 - For more information contact Suesan Nordman at Suesan.Nordman@azdoa.gov.

Usage & Outreach (SCIP Initiative #12)

- Environmental and Historic Preservation Compliance for Public Safety Communications Facilities Workshop –The Workshop, which was held on Tuesday, September 4, 2012, was attended by 54 participants from agencies throughout Arizona. The workshop provided guidance for compliance with policies and procedures of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) when constructing communications facilities.
- PSIC Office staff attended the 78th Annual APCO conference in Minneapolis, MN, Aug 20-26. PSIC staff attended numerous presentations and workshops at this conference focusing on Communications Unit Training and Broadband related workshops. Additional conference information and materials are available online at <http://apco2012.org/>.

Recent Activities

August 16 – ADHS/ADEM Training and Exercise Plan Workshop (Phoenix)
August 19 - 22 – APCO International 78th Annual Conference & Expo (Minneapolis, MN)
August 20 – East RAC Meeting (Teleconference)
August 23 – Central RAC Meeting (Teleconference)
August 27 – West RAC Meeting (Teleconference)
August 29 – South RAC Meeting (Tucson)
August 30 – North RAC Meeting (Teleconference)
September 3 – State Holiday (Labor Day)
September 4 – Environmental and Historic Preservation Compliance for Public Safety Communications Facilities Workshop (Phoenix)
September 6 – Central Region UASI Meeting (Phoenix)
September 6 - 7 – NPSTC Quarterly Meeting (Salt Lake City, UT)
September 11 – NGA - Governors' Public Safety Broadband Contacts Conference Call
September 12 – 2012 COOP/COG Statewide Exercise (Phoenix)
September 12 – Tucson UASI Meeting (Tucson)
September 17 – AZDOHS Senior Advisory Council Meeting (Phoenix)
September 18 – PSCC Meeting (Tucson)
September 19 – Arizona Technology Summit (Phoenix)
October 3 – Utilities Telecomm Council Region 10 Panel (Tempe)
October 8 – State Holiday (Columbus Day)
October 9 – SIEC Meeting (Phoenix)

Upcoming Key Dates

October 16 – 2012 COOP/COG Statewide Exercise After Action Conference
October 17 – Southwest Border Communications Working Group Meeting (Santa Fe, NM)
October 18 – California COMMEX Observation (Sacramento, CA)
October 22 - 25 – [COML Course \(Yuma\)](#)
October 31 – SCIP Implementation Report due to OEC
November 12 – State Holiday (Veterans' Day)
November 13 – [PSCC Meeting \(Phoenix\)](#)
November 13 – [AZ Digital Connections Summit \(Mesa\)](#)
November 14 – Tucson UASI Meeting (Tucson)
November 14 - 15 – SAFECOM / NCSWIC / NENA Conference (Philadelphia, PA)
November 22 – State Holiday (Thanksgiving)
December 4 – [Pima County TICP Workshop](#)
December 25 – State Holiday (Christmas)

Next PSCC Meeting – November 13th (1 to 3 PM)

ADOA 3rd Floor Conference Room - 100 N. 15th Avenue; Phoenix, AZ 85007

NIMS-CU Workgroup Update: AZ Regional All-Hazards Communications Unit Recognition Program

Application Review Meeting

The Workgroup convened on Friday, September 28, 2012 for an Arizona Regional All-Hazards Communications Unit Application Review Meeting:

- As required, a minimum of 3 Workgroup members actively participated in each candidate-related action.
- COML Recognition:
 - There were no applications received for COML recognition.
- COMT Recognition:
 - One application that had been received by the PSIC Office and distributed prior to the meeting was considered.
 - The candidate's Taskbook was evaluated by the Workgroup based on the number, depth and complexity of the incidents/events listed.

Meeting Results

- One candidate was granted recognition by the Workgroup as Arizona Regional All-Hazards COMT (he is the first individual to be recognized with this designation):
 - Karl Hartmetz, La Paz County Sheriff's Office
- A letter confirming recognition as an Arizona Regional All-Hazards COMT was sent to the candidate and copied to his Agency Certifying Official.
- Mr. Hartmetz was added to the Arizona Regional All-Hazards Communications Resource List, which is posted on the PSIC Website at: <http://www.azpsic.gov/library/comt/>.

Next Steps

- The PSIC Office will continue to review submitted application materials for completeness and distribute them to the Workgroup for consideration.
- Complete application materials are due to the PSIC Office at least 1 week prior to the Application Review Meeting to be included for consideration.
- If complete application materials have been received, the next Application Review Meeting will occur approximately 2 weeks prior to the January 2013 SIEC meeting.